



Ethan L. Brown spent most of his life in Charleston, except for a few years when he lived at his ranch on the Duchesne River near Tabiona.

They were the parents of seven children: E. K. Brown, George N. Brown, Mrs. Edith Clayburn, Mrs. Lola Ringwood, Mrs. Jennie B. Duke, Mrs. Lucille White, Mrs. Reta Clark.

GEORGE W. BROWN



George W. Brown was born in 1827 in Ohio. Died in 1906 at Charleston, Utah. He married Emma Barrows.

One of the original band of Utah pioneers, this veteran enjoyed the additional distinction of being one of the very first to put the plow into the soil of the future commonwealth.

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GEORGE WASHINGTON BROWN, of Charleston, Utah, comes of a who were devotedly attached to their country and its institutions, a sacrifice too dear to preserve their integrity and permanence.

George W. Brown was born at Newburg, Cuyahoga County, 25th, 1827.

In speaking of his paternity Mr. Brown says: "My father, Na was born in the year 1788.

"He was a hardy frontiersman who penetrated into the interior felled the timber in the primitive forests, and prepared the way for that was rapidly advancing westward. Born twelve years after the pendency which had given freedom to the United States, he imbued the spirit of liberty, which increased as he grew to manhood. Till very much unsettled, he had but limited opportunities to obtain an education, the love of his country was inherent in him.

"In 1812, when the war broke out between Great Britain and the United States, he enlisted in the American army to more fully establish his country from the yoke of foreign powers. He fought in many battles. He was at the taking of Little York and Port George. He was nevertheless continued to fight bravely on until the victory was won.

"The way in which my father was wounded was this: At the battle of the Clouds, he was engaged as an Indian scout. He was searching the woods for the enemy. He wore a Scotch cap, with a dark colored band around it. While



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Brown, with the intention of depriving him of his legs. George W. Brown thus narrates yet another painful accident that befell his father: "A few months after he had recovered from the last-named catastrophe, my father went to a town some distance from home on business, fully intending to return home the same night. He was detained very late in the evening before he started for home. He was benighted. The night was dark, the weather was wet, and the roads were slippery. While passing through the timber leading to his home he fell, both legs striking on some projecting roots which stripped up the knee pans of his legs and otherwise

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back with a ball from the gun of the enemy. It struck him in the head and then traversed along the cap band to the back part of the head and fell off. When struck with the bullet my father commenced to stagger, and soon fell to the earth. His comrades went to his aid, and finding that the wound was not fatal, they raised him up and again began to turn round with great velocity, and soon he was, in a short time, however, able to walk and went home. He carried a souvenir of the war, and was often examined by his friends out of curiosity to see where the ball passed around the ribbon of his life. He served until the close of the war, in 1814, and was discharged."

Brown betook himself again to the woods. He went to the St. Clair, and began the manufacture of shingles. He worked except such a one as he could improvise by his own hands, and all to be done by hand.

He cut the shingles into blocks with a large cross cut saw. In this part of his work, his wife, his son George W. and another son and a daughter, assisted him. He used a "frow," an iron and steel implement similar in shape to a hay knife. The shingles were shaved

Riving and shaving two thousand shingles was considered

an avocation in the mountains Mr. Brown met with several accidents, which are thus related by his son, George W.: "My father was shaving shingles, the 'horse,' which held him backward with great force, when the keen-edged draw knife, which he held in his hands, struck his left leg just below the knee and almost severed it."

He suffered very much from the loss of blood. Help was conveyed to his home. Surgical aid was summoned, the leg was amputated, and he was made as comfortable as he then could be, but before he was again able to resume his employment.

After his recovery, when similarly engaged, that one of the legs which he was using at work, broke, and plunged him backward to the ground, striking on the right leg and passed almost through it. It inflicted a severe wound, and he was placed in blankets, a rude bed of boughs and limbs of trees, on which he was placed and

the wound was very severe, and for some time his life was despaired of. Through the skillful treatment, and efficient nursing by his wife, he finally recovered, and, however, he walked stiff-legged."

As though the fates had waged war against Nathaniel

injured him. He was rendered incapable of walking, and was reduced to the terrible necessity of crawling on his belly a distance of four miles before he came in sight of his house. The family were much distressed by reason of his absence, as it was the first time he ever remained away from home all night without informing any mother that he would not return the same evening.

"About nine o'clock the next morning, mother went to the door and looked down the road when she saw my father crawling along by the fence. The family went immediately to his assistance. A surgeon was called from the nearest town, but all efforts to reduce the pans to their proper places were fruitless, and they remained ever afterwards about six inches above the knees. He never fully recovered from the effects of this accident. It hastened his demise. He died in 1837, in the fiftieth year of his age, at his home near the head waters of the river St. Clair, in Michigan."

After the death of his father, George W. Brown removed with his mother and some other members of the family to the State of New York, and settled in Chautauqua County. While there his mother joined the Mormon Church. In 1843, they removed to Nauvoo, Illinois, where they remained two weeks and then crossed the Mississippi River and opened a farm near Montrose. From this place George W. Brown was shortly summoned back to Nauvoo, to guard and protect the life of the Prophet Joseph Smith, which was then in constant danger. His enemies had threatened to kill him. It was in this same year that Mr. Brown became a member of the Mormon Church. He was baptized in Sugar Creek, Iowa. After he had served his time as guard to the Prophet, he returned to his farm and continued there until after the assassination of Joseph and Hyrum Smith in Carthage jail.

In July, 1844, Mr. Brown went to New Orleans where he followed steamboating until 1846, at the beginning of the exodus of the Mormon people from their homes in Nauvoo. He then returned to Montrose and soon thereafter he was appointed one of the body guards of President Brigham Young. Hosea Stout was captain of the company. With this company he went forward to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where they went into winter quarters.

In the spring of 1847, he started with the pioneers in the same company with President Brigham Young. He was in the first ten of that fifty. A. P. Rockwood was captain of the company, and Thomas Grover was captain of the first ten. George W. Brown was teamster for Dr. Willard Richards. He entered the valley with the advance party before the main body of pioneers arrived. The same day he commenced plowing and putting in grain and garden seeds. In fact, Mr. Brown says he "ran the first furrow that was plowed by a white man in Utah." The furrow was plowed where now Main Street is, in front of where Godbe's drug store now stands. It was over one hundred yards in length. The party camped a short distance from where the bridge crosses City Creek near the north-east corner of the Temple Block. Shadrach Roundy plowed the second furrow.

Mr. Brown relates the following incident:

"Just before we reached the spot where the Temple Block is, Dr. Willard Richards, who was then asleep in the wagon, suddenly awoke and requested me to stop the team. I did so. The Doctor then said that while in his sleep a voice had spoken to him and told him that was the place for the company to stop. He then inquired for George A. Smith, and was informed that he had ridden forward on his horse. Presently George A. returned. The Doctor told him what had occurred,

he thought of it. Mr. Smith said he believed it was true; he passed this place before, it was with great difficulty that I go any further. The animal wanted to stop here. At nine o'clock in the morning. A meeting was called, and arranged, instructions were given, and a number of men were dispatched on a prospecting ramble. The other men then commarated above."

ined in the valley plowing and helping to put in the crops. ing the summer making water ditches to irrigate the land, and the grain and vegetables. In the fall of the same year he lent Brigham Young and other pioneers to Council Bluffs. rked there through the winter.

1848, he went into the state of Missouri and rented a farm. son and raised his crops. The next year he entered the gov-teamster; he continued in this service until the fall of 1850, Salt Lake Valley. He took with him his mother, a brother to that time, had remained at Kanessville, Iowa, being unable valley before.

to Springville, in Utah County, where he took up eighty med a farm, and brought it under cultivation. He was as yet her lived with him and had charge of his homestead.

1852, George W. Brown was married to Miss Elizabeth Amy f Levi W. and Clarissa Hancock, by whom he had four child-28th, 1862.

ond wife was Miss Emma Barrows, who bore him one son. at this writing. The son was married to Miss Elizabeth, 1 and Jane Hanks, October 27th, 1880.

own was ordained a member of the thirty-fifth quorum of the enties, by President Joseph Young, brother of President In 1860, he went to Rhoades' Valley (now Kamas), settled nd raised the first crop of wheat and potatoes that was raised

Rhoades' Valley and started for a place called Shell Creek, in reached Simpson's station on the old stage line, he learned that in the office. It was offered Mr. Brown and he accepted it. here for a few months and then went to Camp Floyd. Mr. elivities and love of change led him from one place to another hout any desire to permanently settle in any of them.

t to Wallsburg, in Wasatch County. Here he made another n and vegetables. In December of that year he went in com-her persons to Springville, in Utah County. Having transacted tarted on their return for their homes. Their way lay through re they were overtaken by a terrific snow storm. The snow fell d they were completely blockaded. They were snowbound four ut food. All they could obtain to eat during that time was a his companions had an ox drowned in the river. To keep ey made fires with their ox yokes and bows. They left their eir cattle a short distance each day until they reached Deer

Creek. From that place the road was broken the remainder of the distance to Wallsburg. They reached home in a sorry condition. All of them except Mr. Brown, had either their hands, their feet, or some other part of their bodies severely frozen, besides being well nigh famished for the want of food.

The following year, 1867, an Indian outbreak occurred. They made a raid on some of the settlements and Mr. Brown, in common with his neighbors had to vacate their settlement. During the fight, the old Chief Sanpitch visited some of the settlements and gathered up a great deal of ammunition before the whites all knew that the outbreak had taken place. He went to the house of Mr. Brown several times and there moulded bullets with which to murder the whites, and it was not until after they had fled from their homes in Wallsburg that he discovered the real purpose for which the old chief was casting his balls. It was during these troubles that Sanpitch and his son were killed.

After this Mr. Brown purchased a large farm at Charleston. It consists of eighty acres of good land. It is divided into plow-land, hay-land and willow-land. It is delightfully situated in the south end of Provo Valley. It commands a splendid view of mountain scenery whose grandeur inspires the beholder with feelings of rapture as he looks upon them. His stock grazes among the hills and ravines near his house and he does not need to feed but very little during the spring, summer or fall months of the year. The Provo River flows within a short distance of his residence, and formerly afforded abundance of fine trout for his table. Mr. Brown says in former years he caught as high as a hundred pounds in one day with hook and line, but giant powder has since destroyed vast quantities, and made them comparatively scarce.

In July, 1874, Mr. Brown met with a sad bereavement in the death of his son, George W. Brown, Jr. He was riding on horseback, behind another young man. The horse became unruly. He reared up on his hind legs, when George slipped off behind. The animal then kicked out with his hind feet striking the young man violently in the breast and abdomen inflicting fatal injuries, from which he died on the 30th of that month.

On July 14th, 1877, he was ordained a high priest by President John Taylor, and set apart as a member of the High Council of the Wasatch Stake of Zion, with which stake he has been identified since the year 1867. On July 6th, 1884, his mother died at Charleston, in the eighty-fifth year of her age.

He has five sons, nine grandchildren. His son, Isaac N. Brown was married October 14th, 1876, to Miss Reind Murdock, daughter of Joseph and Eliza Murdock. His son Sidney H. Brown, was born November 5th 1862.

Tullidge's Histories





Geo Wash Brown
Nymphus Coridon
Murdoch